

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed September 16, 2003. Claims 1-33 are pending and stand rejected. Applicants have amended Claims 1, 11, 15, 16, 24, and 33 and canceled Claim 3. Favorable action is requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 2, 5-18, 21-23 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as being anticipated by *Van As et al.* (USP 5,327,428), and Claims 3, 4, 19, 20 and 24-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over *Van As*. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Claim 1, as amended, is allowable at least because *Van As* does not teach or suggest "the switch controller operable. . . to determine an address of one of the plurality of addressable TDM memory slots in the switch memory for storing a traffic cell in response to determining the traffic cell is of a TDM type, the determined address within the addressable TDM memory slots based on a header of the traffic cell," which is recited by Claim 1, as amended. Paragraph 6 of the Office Action identifies a "synchronous queue" as the memory for storing synchronous traffic cells. This queue presumably refers to queue 267 of Figure 27 because the associated description is cited by the rejection (Column 22, lines 1-40). But being a queue, queue 267 does not include a plurality of addressable TDM slots, nor is the associated controller operable to determine an address of one of the plurality of addressable TDM memory slots in the switch memory for storing a traffic cell based on a header for the traffic cell. Rather, in the system of *Van As*, the traffic cell is sent to the front of queue 267 once the traffic cell is determined to be synchronous, but the location within queue 267 is not based on the header of the traffic cell. In one embodiment of the invention of Claim 1, the location of the TDM memory slot is determined based on the line card and slot number from which the TDM cell is received, which is not possible in the system of *Van As*.

For at least this reason, Claim 1 and the claims depending therefrom are allowable. Favorable action is requested. For analogous reasons, independent Claims 11, 15, 24, and 33 are also allowable, as are the claims depending therefrom. Favorable action is requested.

CONCLUSION

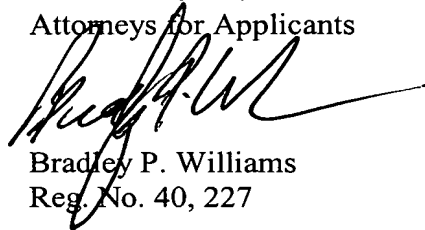
Applicants have now made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for immediate allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other apparent reasons, Applicants respectfully request allowance of all pending claims.

If the Examiner feels that prosecution of the present Application may be advanced in any way by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at 214-953-6447.

Applicants do not believe that any fees are due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge these fees and any extra fee or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.
Attorneys for Applicants



Bradley P. Williams
Reg. No. 40, 227

Date: December 16, 2003

Correspondence Address:
2001 Ross Avenue, Suite 600
Dallas, Texas 75201-2980
Phone: (214) 953-6447

Customer Number: **05073**

C